

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CARACA 02750 221550Z  
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 OTPE-00 NASA-01 OES-07 /027 W  
-----085170 230407Z /15

R 221437Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1667  
INFO USDOC WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 3902  
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
AMEMBASSY LIMA  
AMEMBASSY QUITO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 2750

USDOC FOR OED/MEPD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ETEL, VE  
SUBJECT: TELECOMMUNICATIONS - VENEZUELA'S SATELLITE  
COMMUNICATIONS PLANS

REF: A) STATE 054332 B) BRASILIA 0545 C) 77- CARACAS 12289  
D) 77-BOGOTA 10204

1. POST HAS RECEIVED SEVERL INQUIRIES FROM US MANUFACTURERS OF  
SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT REGARDING RUMORED VENEZULAN  
AND REGIONAL PLANS FOR INCREASING TELECOMMUNICATIONS CAPACITY  
VIA VARIOUS SATELLITE SYSTEMS. THE STATE TELEGRAM IN  
REFERENCE REQUESTED ANY NEW INFORMATION.

2. CANTV, THE GOV-OWNED TELEPHONE COMPANY, PRESENTLY  
OPERATES ONE INTELSAT SATELLITE RECEIVING STATION WICH IS BEGINNING

TO BE SATURATED. THE EXISTING CABLE FACILITIES TO EUROPE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CARACA 02750 221550Z

AND TO THE US VIA ST. THOMAS ALSO SHOW PEAK LOAD  
SATURATION. CANTV IS THEREFORE STUDYING THE NECESSITY  
OF INSTALLATING A SECOND GROUND STATION TO MAKE USE OF  
THE UPCOMING SATELLITE CAPACITY. CANTV ESTIMATES AN  
ANNUAL GROWTH IN INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC OF 17.9 PERCENT,  
SPURRED BY INTERNATIONAL DIRECT DIALING NOW BEING  
INSTALLED. SUCH DIALING IS NOW POSSIBLE TO ITALY,

SPAIN, AND THE US WITH OTHER COUNTRIES BEING ADDED IN  
RAPID SEQUENCE.

3. WHILE A DOMESTIC VENEZUELAN SATELLITE HAS BEEN MENTIONED  
AS A POSSIBILITY, PRIMARILY FOR THE TRANSMITTAL OF  
EDUCATIONAL TV, THIS PROJECT DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE GIVEN  
SERIOUS CONSIDERATION. TV STATIONS ARE EXTENDING THEIR  
COUNTRY COVERAGE THROUGH REPEATER STATIONS. SUCH SYSTEMS  
AS THE CONTROL DATA CORPORATION PROJECT PLATO FOR EDUCATION  
AND A LOCKHEED SYSTEM FOR MEDICAL CARE SEEM TO HAVE BEEN  
PLACED IN ABEYANCE.

3. ANOTHER POSSIBILITY MENTIONED LATELY IS A JOINT PLAN  
FOR A BRZILIAN DOMESTIC SATELLITE WITH VENEZUELA TO USE  
PART OF ITS CAPACITY AND/OR BEING A PARTIAL CO-INVESTOR. UPON  
CLOSER STUDY THIS SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN MORE OF A POLITICAL  
GESTURE BY VENEZUELA THAN A TECHNICAL SOLUTION BEING GIVEN  
REAL CONSIDERATION. AT LEAST, THIS IS THE REACTION WE HAVE  
OBTAINED FROM OUR NORMAL SOURCES IN THE GOV TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
SECTOR.

4. STILL ANOTHER PROJECT, POSSIBLY WITH MORE CHANCE OF SUCCESS,  
IS THE ANDEAN REGIONAL SATELLITE OR "PROJECT CONDOR".  
COLOMBIA APPEARS TO BE THE DRIVING FORCE IN THIS VENTURE.  
A PRE-FEASIBILITY STUDY REPORTEDLY HAS BEEN PREPARED AND IS  
UNDER STUDY. VENEZUELA SEEMS TO BE LUKEWARM ON THIS PROJECT  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 CARACA 02750 221550Z

SINCE IT DOES NOT SEE SUFFICIENT TELECOMMUNICATIONS TRAFFIC  
BETWEEN THE ANDEAN REGION PARTNERS TO WARRANT SUCH A VENTURE.  
HOWEVER, BEING A MEMBER OF ANCOM HAND HAVING STATED AS POLICY  
ITS SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL INTEGRATION, VENEZUELA MIGHT  
AGREE TO SUPPORT THIS PROJECT IF POLITICAL PRESSURE FROM  
OTHER MEMBER STATES BECOME TOO STRONG.

5. IT THUS APPEARS THAT THE ONLY SATELLITE RELATED PROJECT  
WITH STRONG POSSIBILITY OF REALIZATION WITHIN THE NEAR FUTURE  
WILL BE A SECOD INTELSAT RECEIVING ANTENNA.

6. MEPD REQUEST PASS ABOVE INFO TO: PETER WHITEMAN,  
MARKETING SUPPORT, HARRIS SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION,  
TELEX 567488 HSCO MELBOURNE, FLORIDA.  
VAKY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TELECOMMUNICATION, COMMUNICATION SATELLITES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978CARACA02750  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780127-0638  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** CARACAS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780339/aaaabgpu.tel  
**Line Count:** 109  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 2f6ec1bf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 54332, 78 BRASILIA 545  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3243639  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TELECOMMUNICATIONS - VENEZUELA'S SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS PLANS  
**TAGS:** ETEL, VE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/2f6ec1bf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014